IN REL PETITION FOR FORING VARIANCE E'S Prince George Street, 5'N of the all of Gregory Avenue (5618 Prince George Street) 1st Election District

Petitioner

\* ZONING COMMISSIONER \* OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

and Councilmanic District \* Case No. 93-104-A J. Homer Weidemever

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

. . . . . . . . . . .

This matter comes before the Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Coming Variance filed by the legal owner of the subject property, J. Homer Weidemeyer, and the Contract Purchaser, Eric L. Bers, by and through their attorney, Lee Jacobson, Esquire. The Petition as filed seeks relief from Section 1802.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (R.C.Z.R.) to permit a front yard setback of 10 feet in lieu of the minimum required front average of 30 feet for a proposed two-story dwelling. It should be noted that the Petitioner amended his Petition at the hearing to request a front yard setback of 15 feet in lieu of the minimum required front average of 30 feet.

Appearing at the public hearing on behalf of the Petition was the Contract Purchaser, Eric L. Bers of Pacesetter Homes. Mr. Bers was represented by Lee Jacobson, Esquire. There were no Protestants.

Testimony indicated that the subject property, known as 5618 Prince George Street, consists of 0.410 acres, more or less zoned D.R. 5.5 and is currently unimproved. Said property is located across from the intersection of Prince George Street with Gregory Avenue. It appears that this property is one of the last lots to be developed in this older subdivizion. The Petitioners are desirous of developing the property with a two-story dwelling in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, the plat to

> **Baltimore County Government Zoning Commissioner** Office of Planning and Zoning

> > December 7, 1992

E/S Prince George Street, 5' N of the c/l of Gregory Avenue

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavor-

Very truly yours,

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

above-captioned matter. The Petition for Zoning Variance has been granted

able, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within

thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on

filing an appeal, please contact Ms. Charlotte Radcliffe at 887-3351.

7600 Windsor Mill Road, Baltimore, Md. 21244

1st Election District - 2nd Councilmanic District

(410) 887-4386

Suite 113 Courthouse

400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

Lee Jacobson, Esquire

Towson, Maryland 21204

28 Allegheny Avenue, Suite 701

Case No. 93-104-A

cc: Mr. J. Homer Weidemeyer

People's Counsel

Dear Mr. Jacobson

RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE

(5618 Prince George Street)

in accordance with the attached Order.

J. Homer Weidemeyer - Petitioner

accompany the Petition for Zoning Variance. The proposed building envelope is 26.5' wide by 24.5' deep. Although the lot is significantly large enough (120' wide by 148' deep) to accommodate the proposed dwelling, the property is divided by a stream which runs through the middle of the property as shown on Petitioner's Exhibit 1. Due to the location of this stream on the property and the required 100-year flood plain buffer, the Petitioner cannot place the dwelling in the center or rear of the lot. Therefore, the Petitioner must locate the property on the front portion of the lot and a front yard setback of 30 feet cannot be maintained.

As previously indicated, Mr. Bers amended the Petition at the hearing to provide an additional 5-foot setback in the front yard. As such, a front yard setback of 15 feet will now be maintained. All other setback, distance and height requirements will be observed.

An area variance may be granted where strict application of the zoning regulations would cause practical difficulty to the Petitioner and his property. McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973). To prove practical difficulty for an area variance, the Petitioner must meet the following:

- 1) whether strict compliance with requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2) whether the grant would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief; and
- 3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Bd. of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28

if the variance is not granted. It has been established that site constraints peculiar to this land require the Petitioner to seek relief from the setback regulations. To deny the relief requested would unduly restrict the use of the land for a permitted purpose; namely, residential development. In addition, the variance requested will not cause any injury to the public health, safety or general welfare. It is clear from the testimony that if the variance is granted,

it is clear that practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship will result

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented,

such use, as proposed, will not be contrary to the spirit of the B.C.Z.R. and will not result in any injury to the public good.

Although there were no Protestants at the hearing, the Office of Planning and Zoning submitted a comment in opposition to the Petitioner's request. That comment states that the architectural scheme of the neighborhood will be interrupted if the front yard setback is not observed. Although I am appreciative of these concerns, they are overriden by the existing site conditions on the subject property which clearly impose a practical difficulty on the Petitioner. The location of the stream bank transecting this property justifies the variance. Further, a review of the photographs of the site and surrounding neighborhood convinces me that the granting of the variance, as amended, will not adversely affect the architectural scheme of this community. Therefore, the variance shall be

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the variance requested, as amended, should be granted.

- 3-

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this May of December, 1992 that the Petition for Woning Variance requesting relief from Section 1802.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit a front yard setback of 15 feet in lieu of the minimum required front average of 30 feet for a proposed twoctory dwelling in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restriction: 1) The Petitioners may apply for their building

permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that prodeeding at this time is at their own risk until such time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the Petitioners would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

LES:bjs

5618 Prince George Street

DR 5.5

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section | BO2.3.C.1 to allow a front yard setback of 10' in lieu of the required 30' front overage

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County; for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty)

see attached shee

is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law For Baltimore County.

Was Ber So Pacagetter Ho mon Elicot City MD 2 1041
City and State

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this l'elltion. J. HOMER WEIDEMEYER J. Homer Weislemeyer

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HEARING -1/2MR. AVAILABLE FOR HEARING ALL OTHER

REVIEWED BY: G DATE 9 24 92 Prince George Street

Catonsville, MD

Attachment to Petition for Variance

The current zoning requirement has created a practical difficulty:

1. Strict compliance with a front setback of 25 feet would render the lot as non-buildable. The Baltimore County Department of Public Works now requires a 25-foot setback from the edge of the flood plain. The house has been redesigned to accommodate side and rear setbacks.

2. The owner has been paying property taxes annually on the property as if the lot were buildable. Water and sewer services were installed in the street fronting the house. The road surface is paved. Since Public Works is requiring this setback from the flood plain, this variance request becomes necessary. Denying the variance would be an injustice for the many years that full taxes were paid. The setback from the flood plain would not be an issue if a house had been constructed years earlier. Finally, there are no more lots on the street that are affected by the flood plain setback; all other lots have been built out.

3. Public safety would be maintained if the variance is granted. The street is a dead end street and few vehicles travel to the end. The house is located sufficiently away from the travel edge of the road so the occupants of the home are not placed in any

The lot has become a neighborhood trash receptacle because it is vacant and residents place unwanted debris there. Constructing a house on the lot would improve the appearance of the community. Baltimore County does not need another scattered lot to maintain when such land can and should be put to a productive use.

93-104- ♠

- 4-

# Miller-Bowden Associates, Inc.

C. Brooke Miller, R.P.L.S.

Registered Land Surveyors 13054 Tarragon Road Reisterstown, Maryland 21136 (410) 833-5905 / FAX (410) 833-7409

Cynthia B. Bowden, L.S.

Description of

J. Homer Weidmeyer Property

to accompany

Petition for Variance

#5618 Prince George Street lots 73 - 78 Catonsville Manor Baltimore County, Maryland 1st election district

September 14, 1992

Beginning for the same on the east right-of-way line of Prince George Street (40' wide) at the distance of 5.0 feet northerly from the centerline intersection of Prince George Street with Gregory Avenue (40' wide), as laid out and shown on Plat No. 4 of Catonsville Manor, dated August 1918, and recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County, Maryland in Plat book W.P.C. No. 6 folio 168, thence running with and binding on said right-of-way, as now surveyed, and referring all bearings of this description to the meridian established by the Baltimore County Metropolitan District.

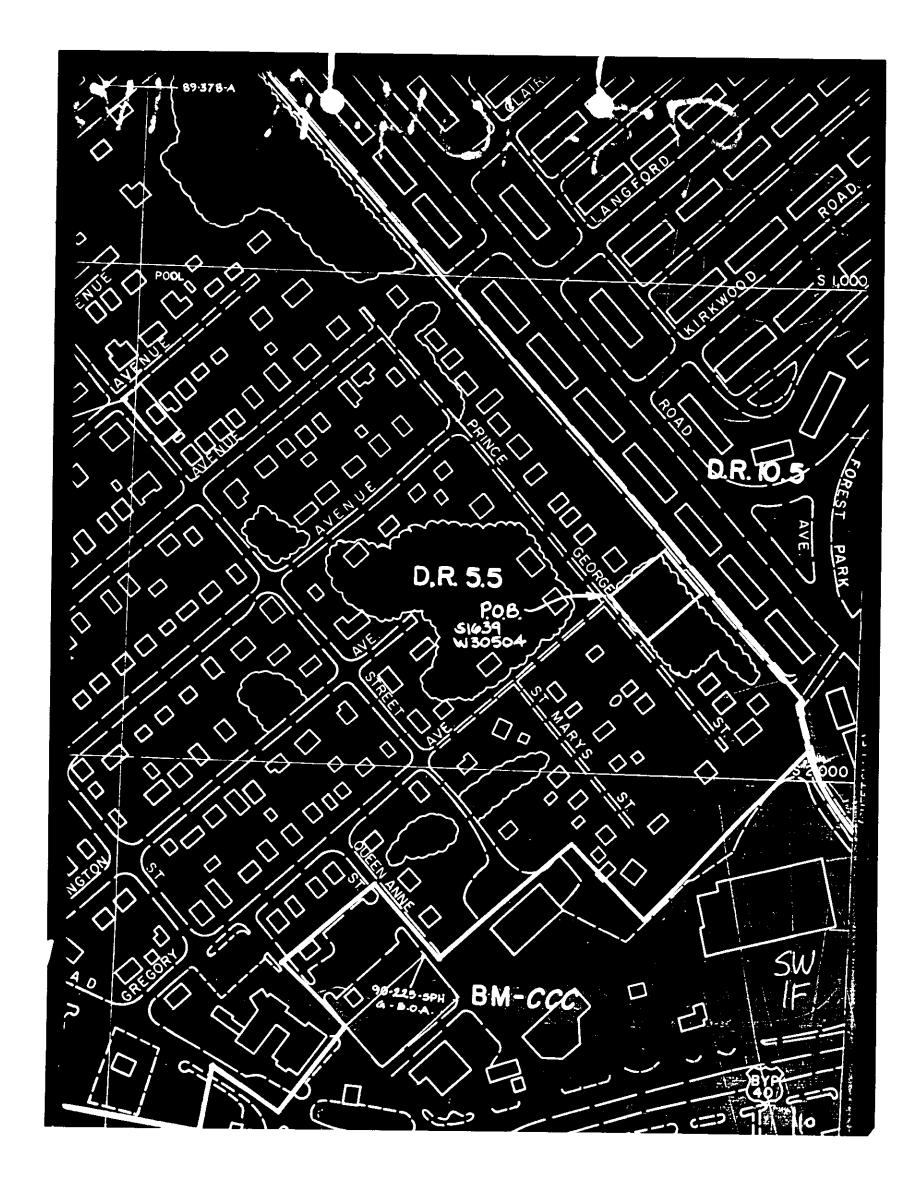
1) South 42 degrees 23 minutes 42 seconds East 120.00 feet, thence leaving Prince George Street and running to include lots 73 - 78 of said plat the three following courses:

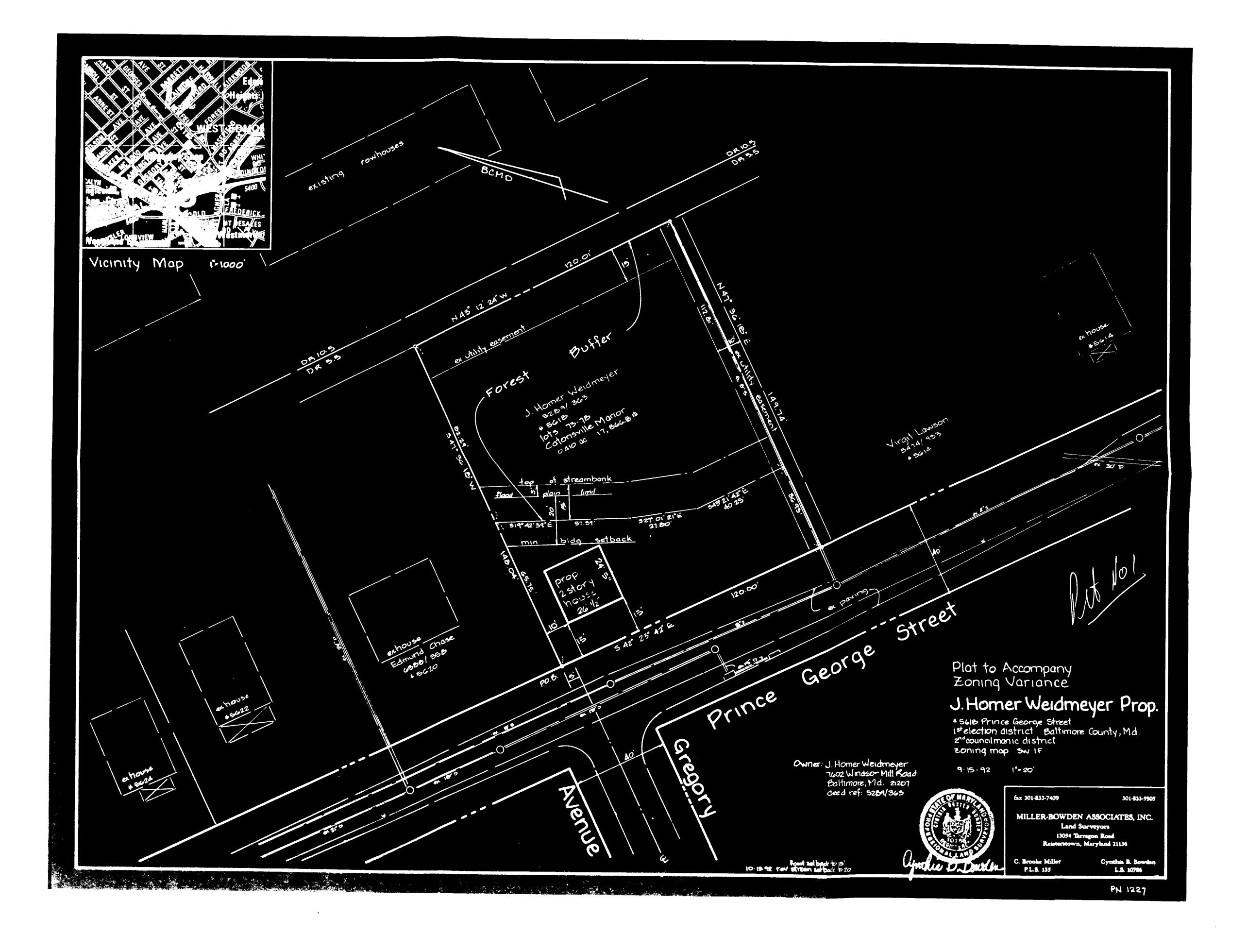
2) Noth 47 degrees 36 minutes 18 seconds East 149.74 feet, thence 3) North 43 degrees 12 minutes 24 seconds West 120.01 feet, and

4) South 47 degrees 36 minutes 18 seconds West 148.04 feet to the

beginning. Containing 17,866.8 square feet, or 0.410 acres, of land, more or







District 157 Posted for: Vorionico	Date of Posting /9/16/92	
Posted for:	e LA. H. Hornes	
Petitioner: //cmm//ce/orm	600. ST., Els, 5 NJGregory Ara	
Location of property: 5617 17750	600 St. Fls , 5 N/Grogory Mrs	
Location of Signe Free Try You dway	on Property to b. 70xxx	
Remarks:		
	Date of return: 10 /23/92	
Posted by	Date of return: 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10	
Humber of Signe:		

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

Varience to allow a front yard setback of 10 feet in lieu of the required 30 foot front average.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., once in each of \_\_\_\_ successive weeks, the first publication appearing on | | | | | | | | |

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning & Zoning

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

October 20, 1992

(410) 887-3353

Lee Jacobson, Esquire 28 Allegheny Avenue Towson, MD 21204

> RE: Item No. 110, Case No. 93-104-A Petitioner: J. Homer Weidemeyer Petition for Variance

Dear Mr. Jacobson:

The Zoning Plans Advisory Committee (ZAC) has reviewed the plans submitted with the above referenced petition. The attached comments from each reviewing agency are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to assure that all parties, i.e. Zoning Commissioner, attorney and/or the petitioner, are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case.

Enclosed are all comments submitted thus far from the members of ZAC that offer or request information on your petition. If additional comments are received from other members of ZAC, I will forward them to you. Otherwise, any comment that is not informative will be placed in the hearing file. This petition was accepted for filing on the date of the enclosed filing certificate and a hearing scheduled accordingly.

The following comments are related only to the filing of future zoning petitions and are aimed at expediting the petition filing process with this office.

1) The Director of Zoning Administration and Development Management has instituted a system whereby seasoned zoning attorneys who feel that they are capable of filing petitions that comply with all aspects of the zoning regulations and petitions filing requirements can file their petitions with this office without the necessity of a preliminary review by Zoning personnel.

Printed on Recycled Paper

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> Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning & Zoning

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

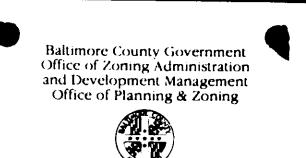
Cachier Validation

(410) 887-3353

Your petition has been received and accepted for filing this 24th day of September, 1992.

Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

Petitioner: J. Homer Weidemeyer Petitioner's Attorney: Lee Jacobson



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

10/08/92

Comment

Comment

6-1-92

Meeting Date

10-5-92 Command

Date /0/13/42

Zoning Issue

114

DATE: 10/20/92

Pocesetter Homes P. O. Box 841 Ellicott City, Maryland 21041

> CASE NUMBER: 93-104-A (Item 110) E/S Prince George Street, 5' N of c/l Gregory Avenue 5618 Prince George Street 1st Election District - 2nd Councimanic Legal Owner(s): J. Homer Weidemeyer Contract Purchaser(s): Pocosetter Homes HEARING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1992 at 11:30 a.m. in Rm. 118, Old Courthouse.

DPW/Developers Engineering Division (Public Services)

Waiver Number

Development Review Committee Response Form Authorized signature

Ronald I. and Gisela J. Canary

Dear Petitioner(s):

Please be advised that \$ 64.33 is due for advertising and posting of the above captioned property and hearing date.

THIS FEE MUST BE PAID AND THE ZONING SIGN & POST SET(S) RETURNED ON THE DAY OF THE HEARING OR THE ORDER SHALL NOT ISSUE. DO NOT REMOVE THE SIGN & POST SET(S) FROM THE PROPERTY UNTIL THE DAY OF THE HEARING.

Please forward your check via return smil to the Zoning Office, County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Room 109, Towson, Maryland 21204. Place the case number on the check and make same payable to Baltimore County, Maryland. In order to avoid delay of the issuance of proper credit and/or your Order, ismediate attention to this matter is suggested.

File Number

DED DEPRM RP STP TE

DED DEPRM RP STP TF

DED DEPRM RP STP TE

May C. Brewer

COUNT 6

COUNT 1

J. Homer Weidemeyer

Irvin C. Ludloff, Jr.

Emanuel Baptist Church

Jean P. Fraunfelter

Richard J. Januszkiewicz

\* \* \* END OF REPORT \* \* \*

Stonegate at Patapsco (Azreal Property)

ZON DED TE (Waiting for developer to submit plans first)



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353 OCT. O 1 1992

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 93-104-A (Item 110) E/S Prince George Street, 5' N of c/l Gregory Avenue 5618 Prince George Street 1st Election District - 2nd Councimenic Legal Owner(s): J. Homer Weidemeyer Contract Purchaser(s): Pocosetter Homes HEARING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1992 at 11:30 a.m. in Rm. 118, Old Courthouse.

Variance to allow a front yard setback of 10 feet in lieu of the required 30 foot front average.

Zoning Commissioner o

cc: J. Homer Weidemeyer Pocesetter Homes

Lee Jacobson, Esq.

Baltimore County

NOTE: HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353.



Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration

O. James Lighthizer Secretary Hal Kassoff

Ms. Julie Winiarski Zoning Administration and Development Management County Office Building Room 109 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue

Towson, Maryland 21204

Re: Baltimore County Item No.: \$ 110 (LJ6)

Dear Ms. Winiarski:

Please contact David Ramsey at 410-333-1350 if you have any questions.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this item.

My telephone number is \_\_\_\_\_ Teletypewriter for impaired Hearing or Speech 383-7555 Baltimore Metro - 565-0451 D.C. Metro - 1-800-492-5062 Statewide Toll Free 707 North Calvert St., Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717

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J. HOMER WEIDEMEYER

Petitioners

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

R. Jacobson and Jacobson & Myerberg, P.A., 28 Allegheny

the legal owner and contract purchaser of the subject site

located in the first election district, second councilmanic

district of Baltimore County on the east side of Prince

George Street, 5 feet north of the center line of Gregory

Avenue the property being known as 5618 Prince George

Street. The property facing Prince George Street is zoned

DR 5.5. The lot 120 feet wide by approximately 149 feet

deep is crossed by a stream creating an irregular shaped

building envelope in the front left corner of the property.

The Petitioners are desirous of erecting a two story

residence consistent with the existing neighborhood

architecture. In order to so erect a home within the

existing building envelope a variance is needed with respect

to the front set back, presently 25 feet.

Avenue, Suite 701, Towson, Maryland 21204.

The Petitioners in this matter are represented by Lee

The facts in this matter are that the Petitioners are

PACESETTER HOMES, INC.

CASE NO.: 93-104-A

BEFORE THE

JACOBSON &

MYERBERG, P. A

88 ALLEGHENY AVENUE

701 THE PENTHOUSE

TOWSON, MD 21204

TELEPHONE 828-7090

ATTORNEYS AT LAY

BALTIMORE COUNTY

ZONING COMMISSIONER

Towson, MD 21204-5500 OCTOBER 19, 1992 Arnold Jablon Director Zoning Administration and Development Management Baltimore County Office Building Towson, MD 21204 RE: Property Owner: J. HOMER WEIDEMEYER Location: **#5618 PRINCE GEORGE STREET** Item No.: 110 (LJG) Zoning Agenda: OCTOBER 5, 1992 Gentlemen: Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property. 5. The buildings and structures existing or proposed on the site shall comply with all applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 101 "Life Safety Code", 1988 edition prior to occupancy. Planning Group Special Inspection Division JP/KEK

Baltimore County Government Fire Department

(410) 887-4500

700 East Joppa Road Suite 901

The variance required for this site is due to the required clearance from the 100 year flood plain as evidenced by correspondence dated January 13, 1992 from Robert E. Covahey, P.E., Chief of Baltimore County's Bureau of Public Services. The need for the front set back variance is created by the practices of Baltimore County in that the remaining building area is impractical to construct any form of modern housing thus requiring a variance of the front set back to permit the property to be used for its

intended purpose, a residential building lot. The Petitioners are entitled to relief in the form of a variance if the evidence complies with the standards set forth in section 307.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning regulations. The issue before the Zoning Commissioner in this case is one of set back from a street right of way. This is clearly an area variance where the burden is to prove practical difficulty. Here the practical difficulty arises out of the inherent problem created on this particular building lot by the relationship of the stream and the public road. This condition creates an appropriate subject for a variance in order to permit the intended use of the land, the development of a residential unit. There is no evidence in the record that would suggest the variance would create any issue of safety or injustice to anyone in the community. In fact, the only detriment created by this variance would be if this request was denied, as then the

Petitioners would lose the right to use their land as permitted by the laws of Baltimore County.

Based upon a reasonable acceptance of the facts and evidence and the proper application of the relative principles of law the relief should be granted.

> Respectfully submitted, LEE R. JACOBSON JACOBSON & MYERBERG, P.A. Suite 701, The Penthouse 28 Allegheny Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 828-7090 Attorney for Petitioners

Development Review Committee Responde to Land Date 10/15/52-Project Name Waiver Number Zoning Issue Meeting Date Ronald I. and Gisela J. Canary DED DEPRM RP STP TE J. Homer Weidemeyer DED DEPRM RP STP TE No Comment Irvin C. Ludloff, Jr. ED DEPRM RP STP TE DED DEPRM RP STP TE Emanuel Baptist Church DED DEPRM RP STP TE No Connert Jean P. Fraunfelter DED DEPRM RP STP TE No Connert Richard J. Januszkiewicz DED DEPRM RP STP TE No Connent DED DEPRM RP STP TE 10/5/92 No Comment COUNT 1

\*\*\* END OF REPORT \*\*\*

FINAL TOTALS

COUNT 7

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director Zoning Administration & Development Management

Office of Planning and Zoning

FROM: Pat Keller, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: J. Homer Weidmeyer Property

**DATE:** October 23, 1992

ZONING COMMISSIONEI

INFORMATION: Item Number:

Petitioner:

J. Homer Weidmeyer Property Size: 0.410 acres Zoning:

Requested Action: Variance Hearing Date:

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS: This petitioner is requesting a variance to allow a front yard setback of 10' in lieu of the required 30' front average.

The Office of Planning and Zoning recommends DENIAL of the petitioner's re-

The Office of Planning and Zoning's area planner visited the site and indicated that granting of the petitioner's request would significantly interrupt the alignment of homes along Prince George Street. All the houses on Prince George Street are setback at least 25' from the edge of the property line. The proposed new home would be situated too close to the street compared to the existing homes on both sides of this street. The community planning division, of the Office of Planning and Zoning, believes that from a neighborhood layout and design perspective that a home this close to the road would be undesirable and a detriment to

EMcD/FM: rdn

110. ZAC/ZAC1 Recal 11/2/92

## PACESETTER HOMES, INC. CUSTOMIZED HOMES . AFFORDABLE PRICES P.O. BOX 841 ELLICOTT CITY, MARYLAND 21043

(301) 465-8405

Mr. Lawrence E. Schmidt Zoning Commissioner Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning and Zoning 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: INFORMATION: Technical Change to Zoning Variance Request Case Number 93-104-A (Item 110), 5618 Prince George St. First Election District - Second Councilmanic Hearing Date: November 5, 1992

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Please accept this letter as the formal notice to modify the subject variance request.

The variance filed requests a front setback of 10 feet rather than the 30 feet now required by zoning. In the development of the plans, we inadvertently moved the house too close to the front property line. In correcting this error, we find that the front setback should be 15 feet, rather than the 10 feet originally requested in the petition. Thus, the new home will be further away from the property line and the street.

Please make a note of this change. A new plan has been prepared and will be submitted to the County at the formal hearing. No other changes have been made.

ZONING OFFICE

President

JACOBSON & Myerberg, P. A. ATTORNEYS AT LAW 20 ALLEGHENY AVENUE 701 THE PENTHOUS TOWSON, MD. 21204 TELEPHONE 828-7090

MYERBERG, P. A. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

28 ALLEGHENY AVENUE 701 THE PENTHOUSE TOWSON, ND. 21204

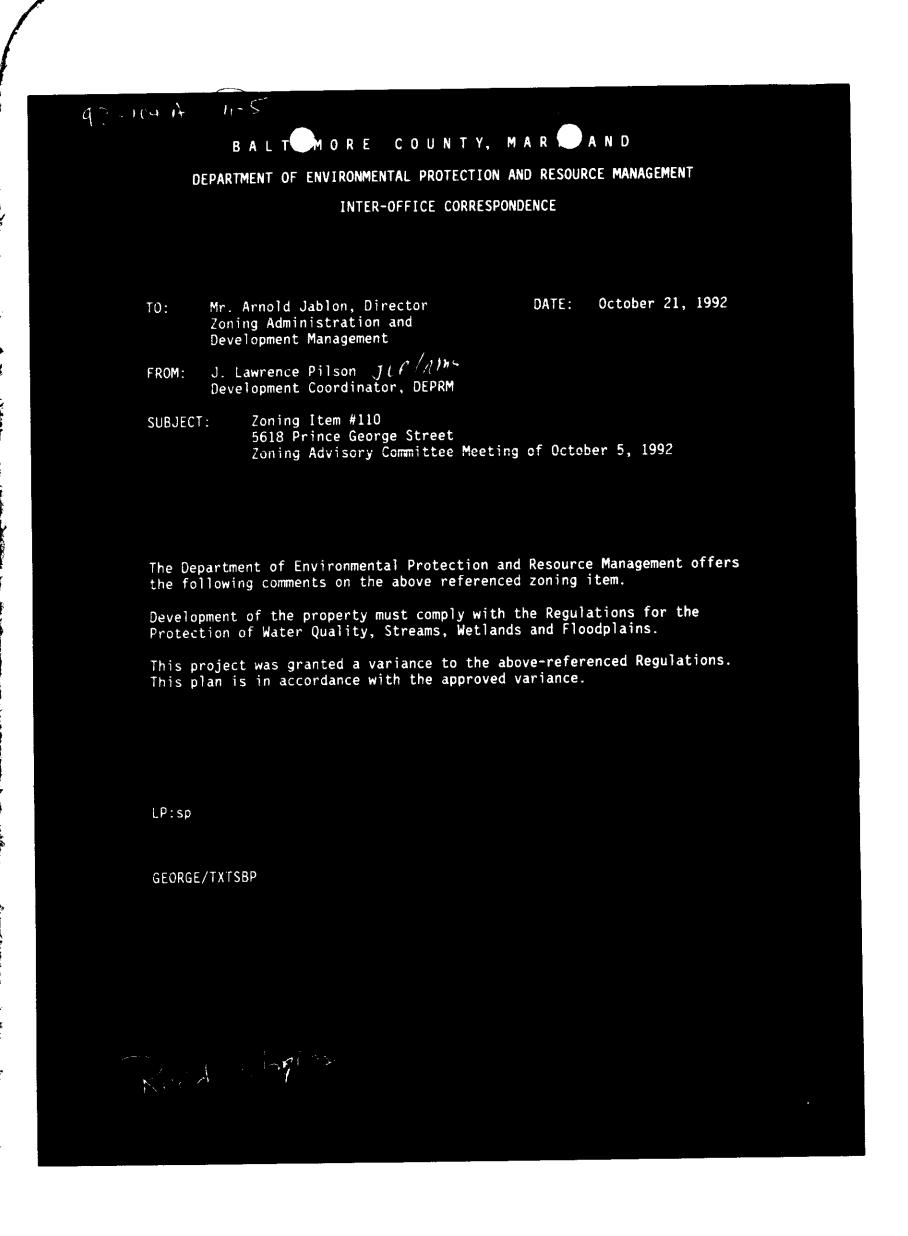
TELEPHONE 828-7090

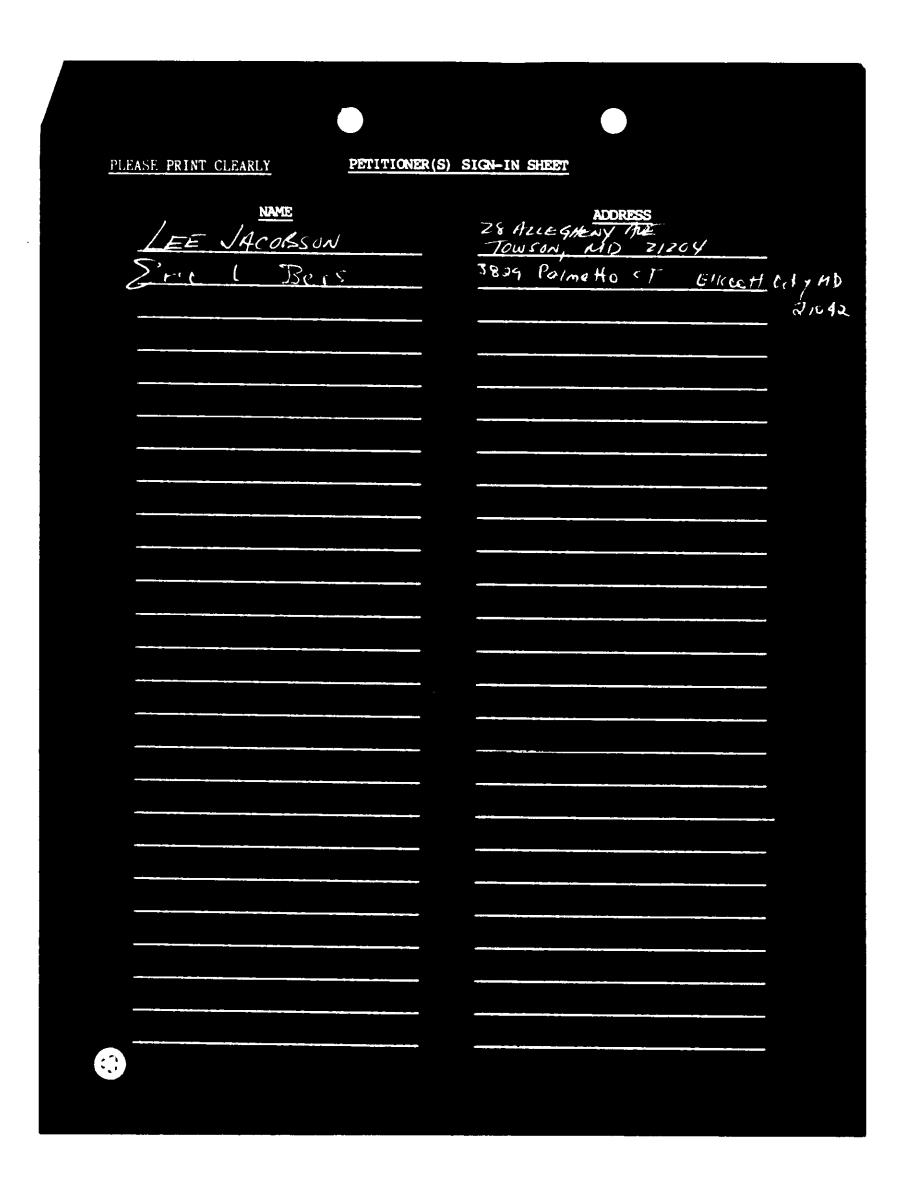
Eric L. Bers, P.E.

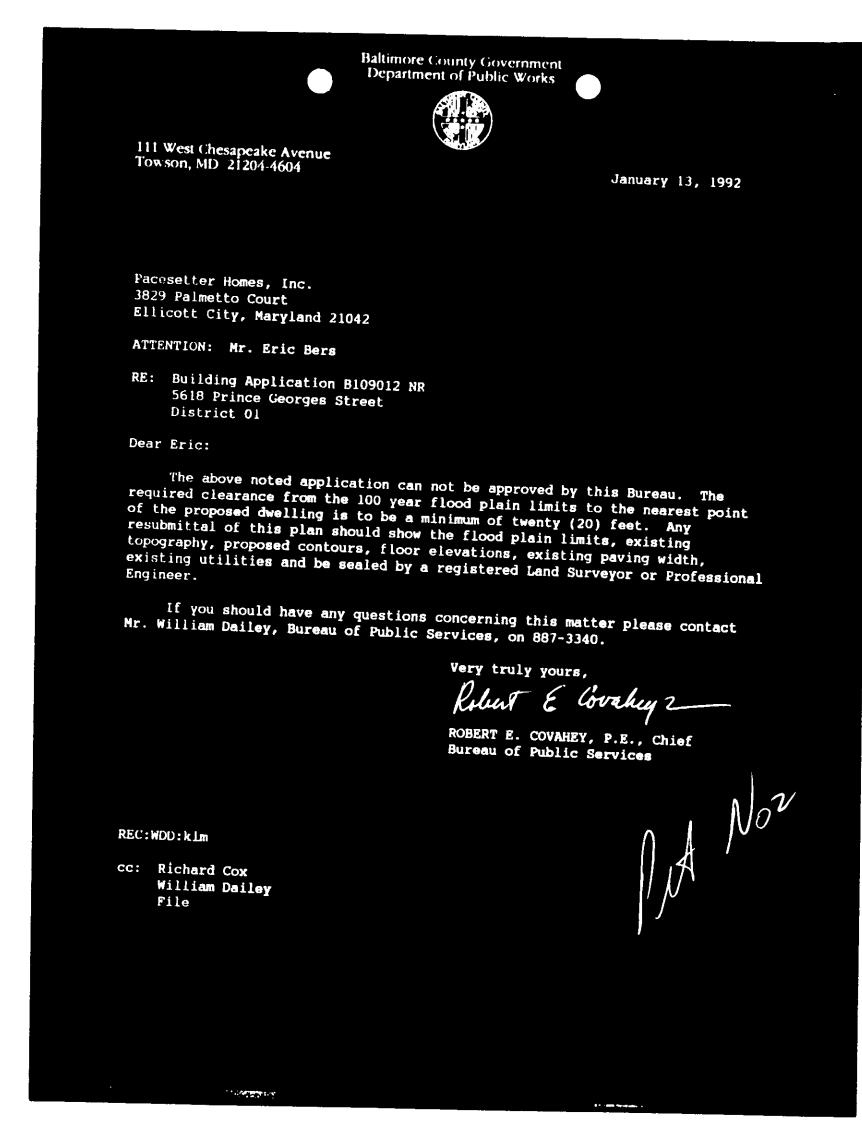
All The Best,

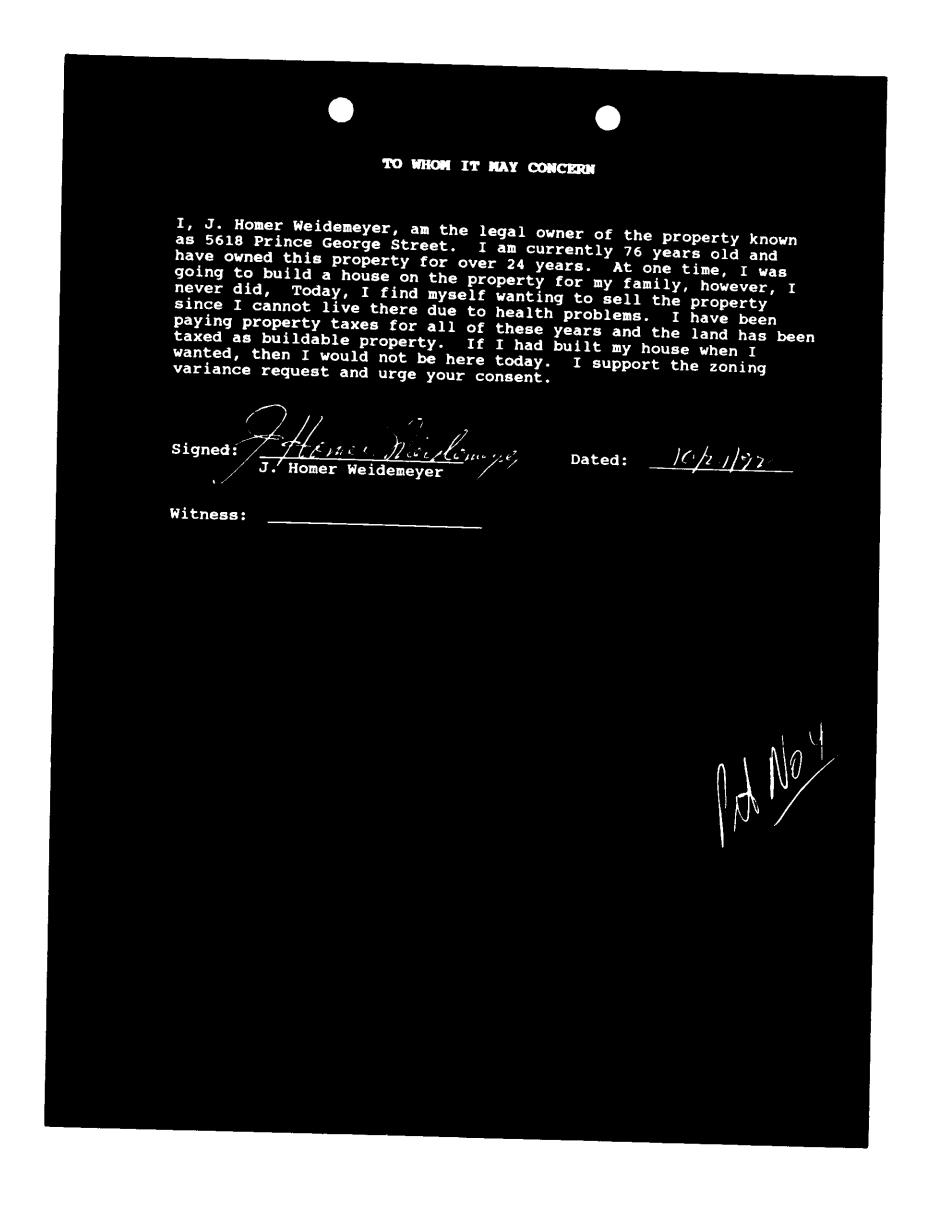
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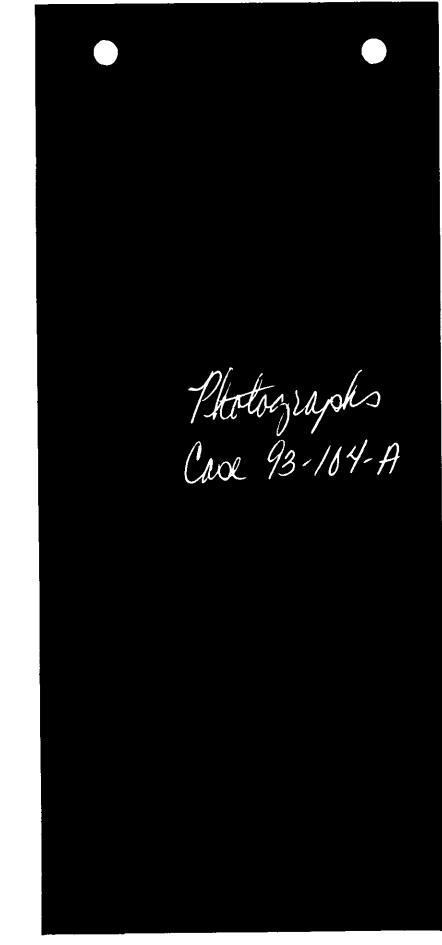
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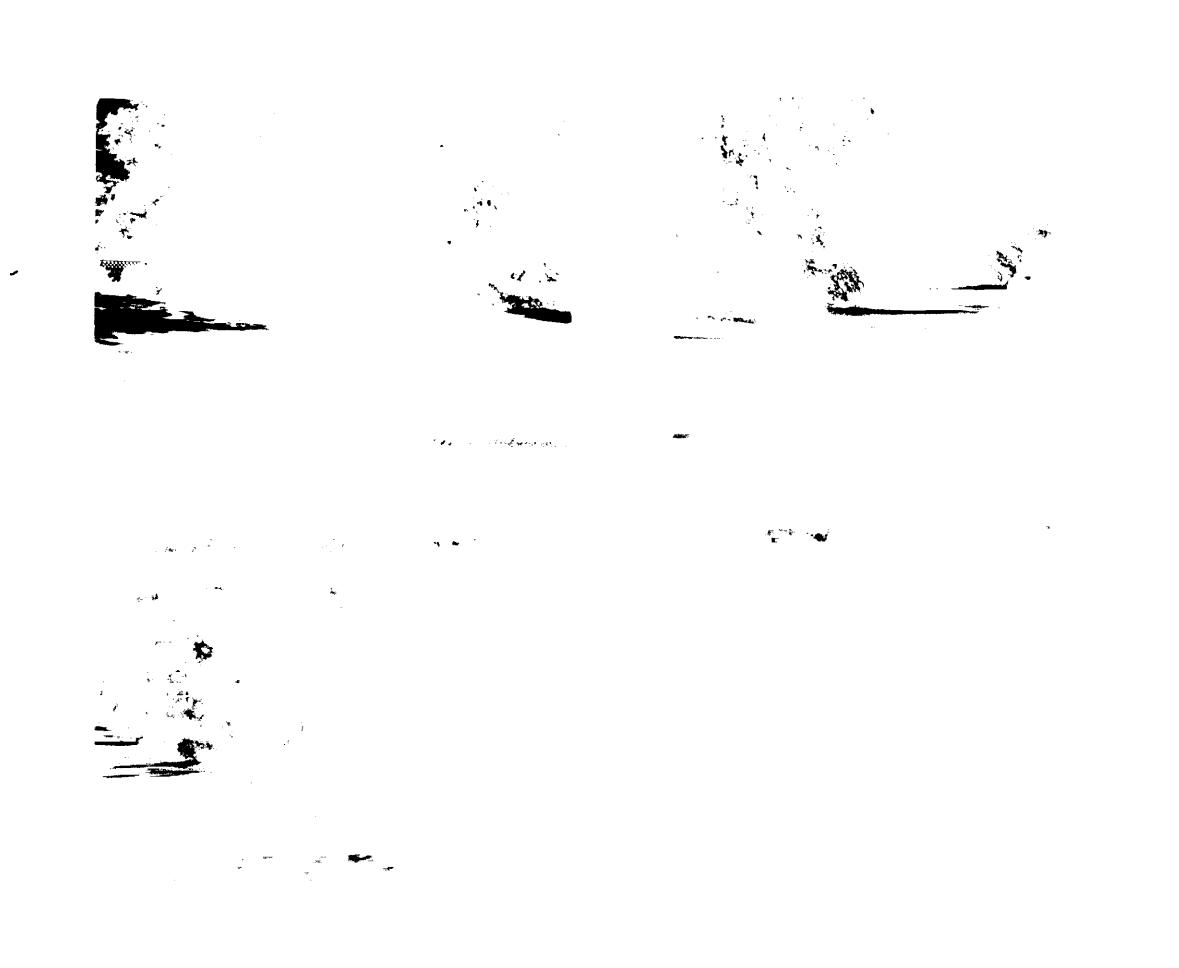


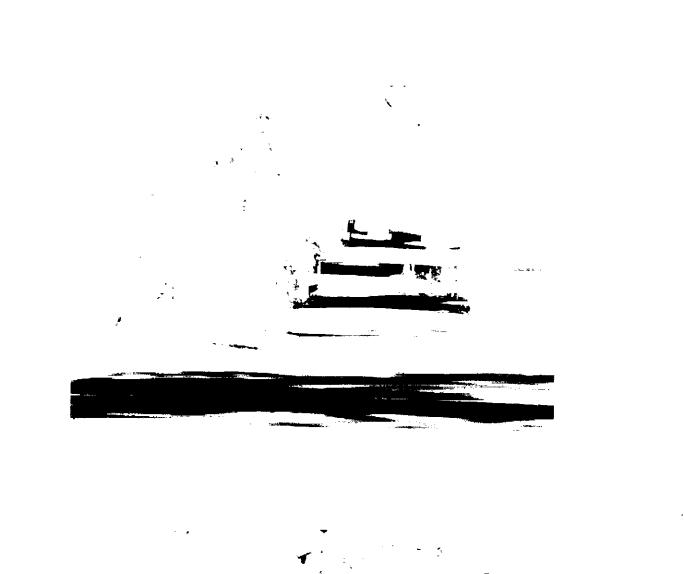


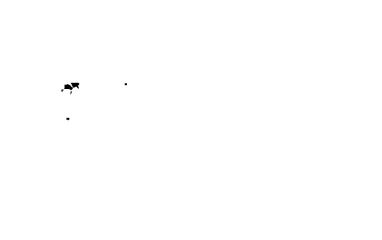






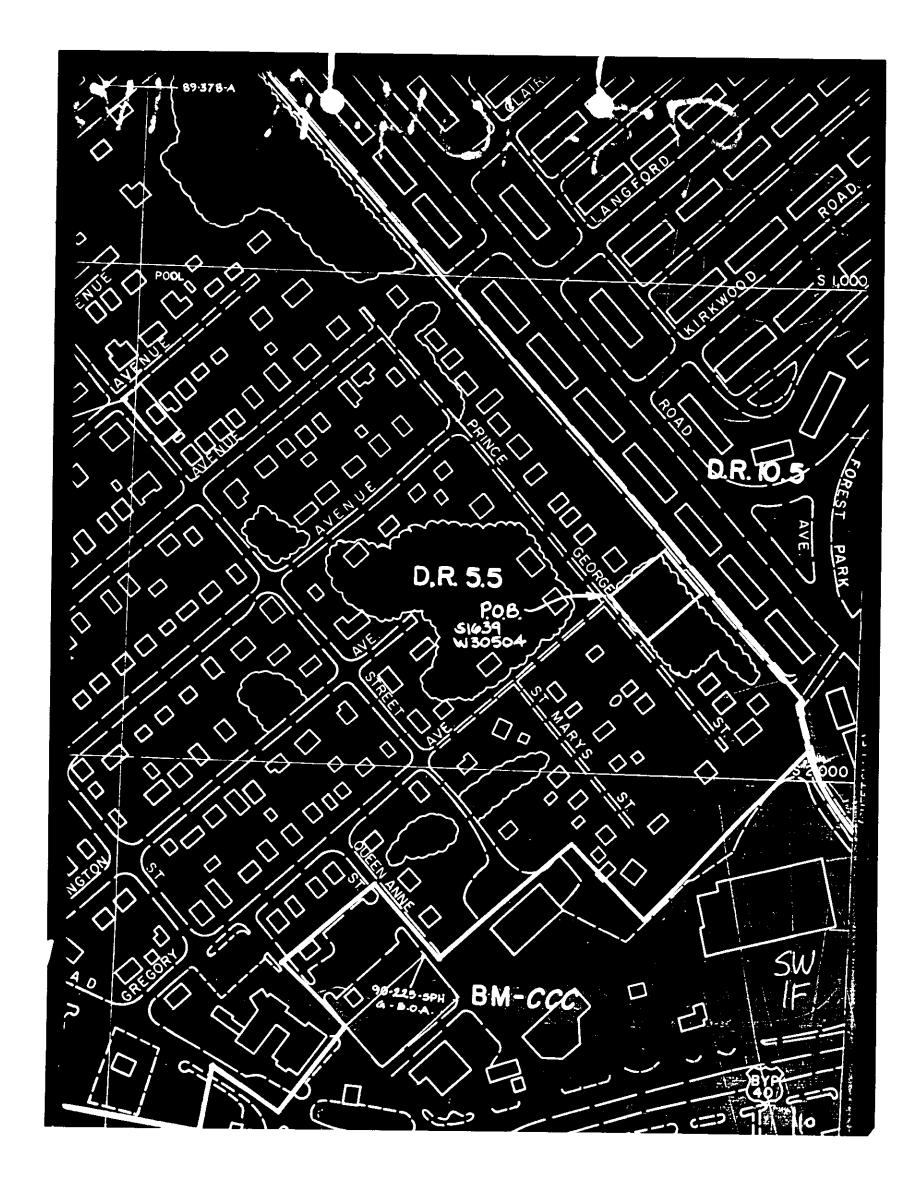


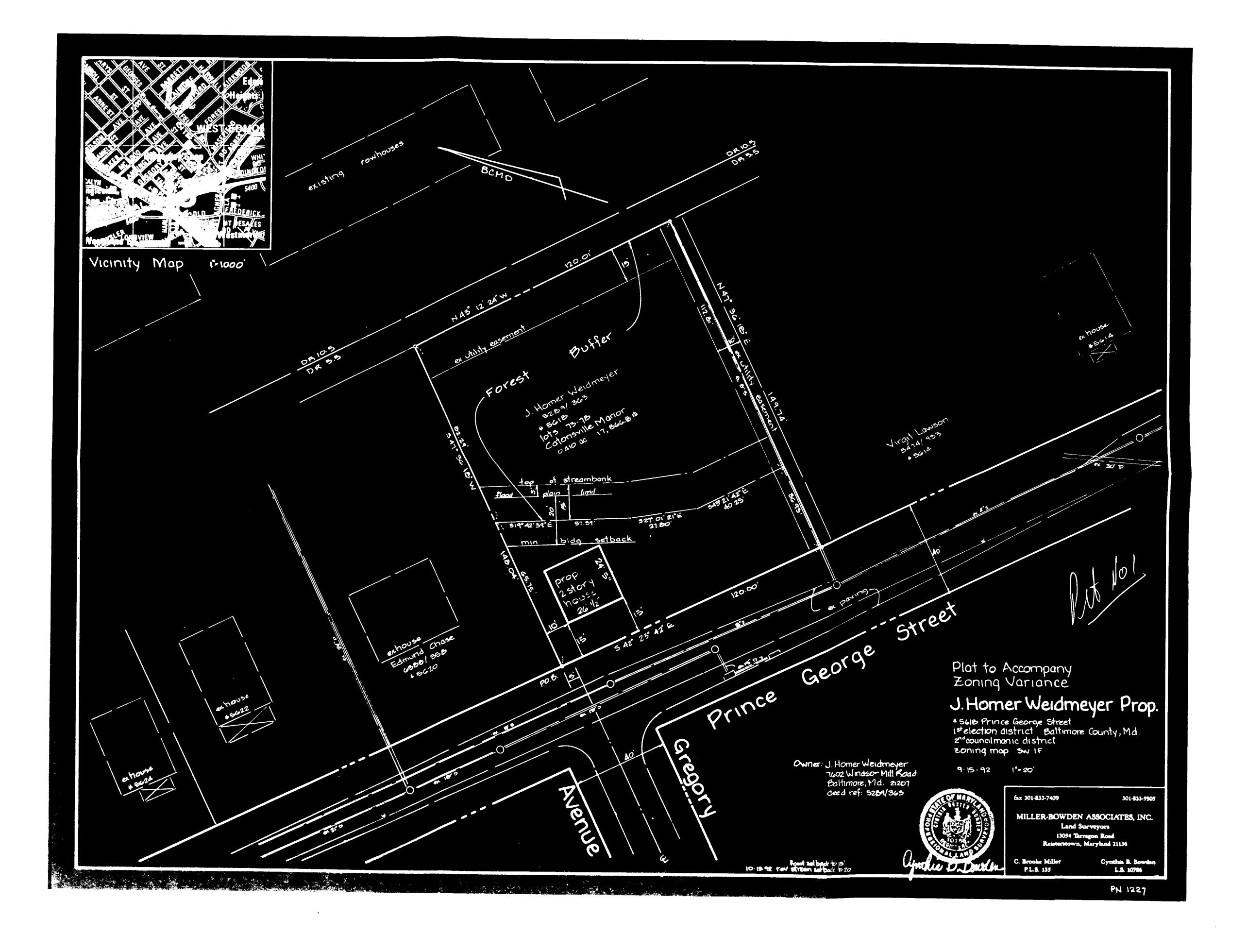












IN REL PETITION FOR FORING VARIANCE E'S Prince George Street, 5'N of the all of Gregory Avenue (5618 Prince George Street) 1st Election District

Petitioner

\* ZONING COMMISSIONER \* OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

and Councilmanic District \* Case No. 93-104-A J. Homer Weidemever

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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This matter comes before the Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Coming Variance filed by the legal owner of the subject property, J. Homer Weidemeyer, and the Contract Purchaser, Eric L. Bers, by and through their attorney, Lee Jacobson, Esquire. The Petition as filed seeks relief from Section 1802.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (R.C.Z.R.) to permit a front yard setback of 10 feet in lieu of the minimum required front average of 30 feet for a proposed two-story dwelling. It should be noted that the Petitioner amended his Petition at the hearing to request a front yard setback of 15 feet in lieu of the minimum required front average of 30 feet.

Appearing at the public hearing on behalf of the Petition was the Contract Purchaser, Eric L. Bers of Pacesetter Homes. Mr. Bers was represented by Lee Jacobson, Esquire. There were no Protestants.

Testimony indicated that the subject property, known as 5618 Prince George Street, consists of 0.410 acres, more or less zoned D.R. 5.5 and is currently unimproved. Said property is located across from the intersection of Prince George Street with Gregory Avenue. It appears that this property is one of the last lots to be developed in this older subdivizion. The Petitioners are desirous of developing the property with a two-story dwelling in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, the plat to

> **Baltimore County Government Zoning Commissioner** Office of Planning and Zoning

> > December 7, 1992

E/S Prince George Street, 5' N of the c/l of Gregory Avenue

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavor-

Very truly yours,

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

above-captioned matter. The Petition for Zoning Variance has been granted

able, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within

thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on

filing an appeal, please contact Ms. Charlotte Radcliffe at 887-3351.

7600 Windsor Mill Road, Baltimore, Md. 21244

1st Election District - 2nd Councilmanic District

(410) 887-4386

Suite 113 Courthouse

400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

Lee Jacobson, Esquire

Towson, Maryland 21204

28 Allegheny Avenue, Suite 701

Case No. 93-104-A

cc: Mr. J. Homer Weidemeyer

People's Counsel

Dear Mr. Jacobson

RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE

(5618 Prince George Street)

in accordance with the attached Order.

J. Homer Weidemeyer - Petitioner

accompany the Petition for Zoning Variance. The proposed building envelope is 26.5' wide by 24.5' deep. Although the lot is significantly large enough (120' wide by 148' deep) to accommodate the proposed dwelling, the property is divided by a stream which runs through the middle of the property as shown on Petitioner's Exhibit 1. Due to the location of this stream on the property and the required 100-year flood plain buffer, the Petitioner cannot place the dwelling in the center or rear of the lot. Therefore, the Petitioner must locate the property on the front portion of the lot and a front yard setback of 30 feet cannot be maintained.

As previously indicated, Mr. Bers amended the Petition at the hearing to provide an additional 5-foot setback in the front yard. As such, a front yard setback of 15 feet will now be maintained. All other setback, distance and height requirements will be observed.

An area variance may be granted where strict application of the zoning regulations would cause practical difficulty to the Petitioner and his property. McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973). To prove practical difficulty for an area variance, the Petitioner must meet the following:

- 1) whether strict compliance with requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2) whether the grant would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief; and
- 3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Bd. of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28

if the variance is not granted. It has been established that site constraints peculiar to this land require the Petitioner to seek relief from the setback regulations. To deny the relief requested would unduly restrict the use of the land for a permitted purpose; namely, residential development. In addition, the variance requested will not cause any injury to the public health, safety or general welfare. It is clear from the testimony that if the variance is granted,

it is clear that practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship will result

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented,

such use, as proposed, will not be contrary to the spirit of the B.C.Z.R. and will not result in any injury to the public good.

Although there were no Protestants at the hearing, the Office of Planning and Zoning submitted a comment in opposition to the Petitioner's request. That comment states that the architectural scheme of the neighborhood will be interrupted if the front yard setback is not observed. Although I am appreciative of these concerns, they are overriden by the existing site conditions on the subject property which clearly impose a practical difficulty on the Petitioner. The location of the stream bank transecting this property justifies the variance. Further, a review of the photographs of the site and surrounding neighborhood convinces me that the granting of the variance, as amended, will not adversely affect the architectural scheme of this community. Therefore, the variance shall be

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the variance requested, as amended, should be granted.

- 3-

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this May of December, 1992 that the Petition for Woning Variance requesting relief from Section 1802.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit a front yard setback of 15 feet in lieu of the minimum required front average of 30 feet for a proposed twoctory dwelling in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restriction: 1) The Petitioners may apply for their building

permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that prodeeding at this time is at their own risk until such time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the Petitioners would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

LES:bjs

5618 Prince George Street

DR 5.5

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section | BO2.3.C.1 to allow a front yard setback of 10' in lieu of the required 30' front overage

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County; for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty)

see attached shee

is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law For Baltimore County.

Was Ber So Pacagetter Ho mon Elicot City MD 2 1041
City and State

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this l'elltion. J. HOMER WEIDEMEYER J. Homer Weislemeyer

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HEARING -1/2MR. AVAILABLE FOR HEARING ALL OTHER

REVIEWED BY: G DATE 9 24 92 Prince George Street

Catonsville, MD

Attachment to Petition for Variance

The current zoning requirement has created a practical difficulty:

1. Strict compliance with a front setback of 25 feet would render the lot as non-buildable. The Baltimore County Department of Public Works now requires a 25-foot setback from the edge of the flood plain. The house has been redesigned to accommodate side and rear setbacks.

2. The owner has been paying property taxes annually on the property as if the lot were buildable. Water and sewer services were installed in the street fronting the house. The road surface is paved. Since Public Works is requiring this setback from the flood plain, this variance request becomes necessary. Denying the variance would be an injustice for the many years that full taxes were paid. The setback from the flood plain would not be an issue if a house had been constructed years earlier. Finally, there are no more lots on the street that are affected by the flood plain setback; all other lots have been built out.

3. Public safety would be maintained if the variance is granted. The street is a dead end street and few vehicles travel to the end. The house is located sufficiently away from the travel edge of the road so the occupants of the home are not placed in any

The lot has become a neighborhood trash receptacle because it is vacant and residents place unwanted debris there. Constructing a house on the lot would improve the appearance of the community. Baltimore County does not need another scattered lot to maintain when such land can and should be put to a productive use.

93-104- ♠

- 4-

# Miller-Bowden Associates, Inc.

C. Brooke Miller, R.P.L.S.

Registered Land Surveyors 13054 Tarragon Road Reisterstown, Maryland 21136 (410) 833-5905 / FAX (410) 833-7409

Cynthia B. Bowden, L.S.

Description of

J. Homer Weidmeyer Property

to accompany

Petition for Variance

#5618 Prince George Street lots 73 - 78 Catonsville Manor Baltimore County, Maryland 1st election district

September 14, 1992

Beginning for the same on the east right-of-way line of Prince George Street (40' wide) at the distance of 5.0 feet northerly from the centerline intersection of Prince George Street with Gregory Avenue (40' wide), as laid out and shown on Plat No. 4 of Catonsville Manor, dated August 1918, and recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County, Maryland in Plat book W.P.C. No. 6 folio 168, thence running with and binding on said right-of-way, as now surveyed, and referring all bearings of this description to the meridian established by the Baltimore County Metropolitan District.

1) South 42 degrees 23 minutes 42 seconds East 120.00 feet, thence leaving Prince George Street and running to include lots 73 - 78 of said plat the three following courses:

2) Noth 47 degrees 36 minutes 18 seconds East 149.74 feet, thence 3) North 43 degrees 12 minutes 24 seconds West 120.01 feet, and

4) South 47 degrees 36 minutes 18 seconds West 148.04 feet to the

beginning. Containing 17,866.8 square feet, or 0.410 acres, of land, more or



District 157 Posted for: Vorionico	Date of Posting /9/16/92	
Posted for:	e LA. H. Hornes	
Petitioner: //cmm//ce/orm	600. ST., Els, 5 NJGregory Ara	
Location of property: 5617 17750	600 St. Fls , 5 N/Grogory Mrs	
Location of Signe Free Try You dway	on Property to b. 70xxx	
Remarks:		
	Date of return: 10 /23/92	
Posted by	Date of return: 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10	
Humber of Signe:		

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

Varience to allow a front yard setback of 10 feet in lieu of the required 30 foot front average.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., once in each of \_\_\_\_ successive weeks, the first publication appearing on | | | | | | | | |

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning & Zoning

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

October 20, 1992

(410) 887-3353

Lee Jacobson, Esquire 28 Allegheny Avenue Towson, MD 21204

> RE: Item No. 110, Case No. 93-104-A Petitioner: J. Homer Weidemeyer Petition for Variance

Dear Mr. Jacobson:

The Zoning Plans Advisory Committee (ZAC) has reviewed the plans submitted with the above referenced petition. The attached comments from each reviewing agency are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to assure that all parties, i.e. Zoning Commissioner, attorney and/or the petitioner, are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case.

Enclosed are all comments submitted thus far from the members of ZAC that offer or request information on your petition. If additional comments are received from other members of ZAC, I will forward them to you. Otherwise, any comment that is not informative will be placed in the hearing file. This petition was accepted for filing on the date of the enclosed filing certificate and a hearing scheduled accordingly.

The following comments are related only to the filing of future zoning petitions and are aimed at expediting the petition filing process with this office.

1) The Director of Zoning Administration and Development Management has instituted a system whereby seasoned zoning attorneys who feel that they are capable of filing petitions that comply with all aspects of the zoning regulations and petitions filing requirements can file their petitions with this office without the necessity of a preliminary review by Zoning personnel.

Printed on Recycled Paper

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> Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning & Zoning

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

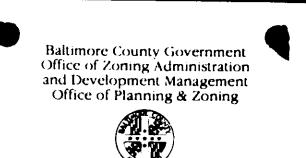
Cachier Validation

(410) 887-3353

Your petition has been received and accepted for filing this 24th day of September, 1992.

Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

Petitioner: J. Homer Weidemeyer Petitioner's Attorney: Lee Jacobson



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

10/08/92

Comment

Comment

6-1-92

Meeting Date

10-5-92 Command

Date /0/13/42

Zoning Issue

114

DATE: 10/20/92

Pocesetter Homes P. O. Box 841 Ellicott City, Maryland 21041

> CASE NUMBER: 93-104-A (Item 110) E/S Prince George Street, 5' N of c/l Gregory Avenue 5618 Prince George Street 1st Election District - 2nd Councimanic Legal Owner(s): J. Homer Weidemeyer Contract Purchaser(s): Pocosetter Homes HEARING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1992 at 11:30 a.m. in Rm. 118, Old Courthouse.

DPW/Developers Engineering Division (Public Services)

Waiver Number

Development Review Committee Response Form Authorized signature

Ronald I. and Gisela J. Canary

Dear Petitioner(s):

Please be advised that \$ 64.33 is due for advertising and posting of the above captioned property and hearing date.

THIS FEE MUST BE PAID AND THE ZONING SIGN & POST SET(S) RETURNED ON THE DAY OF THE HEARING OR THE ORDER SHALL NOT ISSUE. DO NOT REMOVE THE SIGN & POST SET(S) FROM THE PROPERTY UNTIL THE DAY OF THE HEARING.

Please forward your check via return smil to the Zoning Office, County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Room 109, Towson, Maryland 21204. Place the case number on the check and make same payable to Baltimore County, Maryland. In order to avoid delay of the issuance of proper credit and/or your Order, ismediate attention to this matter is suggested.

File Number

DED DEPRM RP STP TE

DED DEPRM RP STP TF

DED DEPRM RP STP TE

May C. Brewer

COUNT 6

COUNT 1

J. Homer Weidemeyer

Irvin C. Ludloff, Jr.

Emanuel Baptist Church

Jean P. Fraunfelter

Richard J. Januszkiewicz

\* \* \* END OF REPORT \* \* \*

Stonegate at Patapsco (Azreal Property)

ZON DED TE (Waiting for developer to submit plans first)



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353 OCT. O 1 1992

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 93-104-A (Item 110) E/S Prince George Street, 5' N of c/l Gregory Avenue 5618 Prince George Street 1st Election District - 2nd Councimenic Legal Owner(s): J. Homer Weidemeyer Contract Purchaser(s): Pocosetter Homes HEARING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1992 at 11:30 a.m. in Rm. 118, Old Courthouse.

Variance to allow a front yard setback of 10 feet in lieu of the required 30 foot front average.

Zoning Commissioner o

cc: J. Homer Weidemeyer Pocesetter Homes

Lee Jacobson, Esq.

Baltimore County

NOTE: HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353.



Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration

O. James Lighthizer Secretary Hal Kassoff

Ms. Julie Winiarski Zoning Administration and Development Management County Office Building Room 109 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue

Towson, Maryland 21204

Re: Baltimore County Item No.: \$ 110 (LJ6)

Dear Ms. Winiarski:

Please contact David Ramsey at 410-333-1350 if you have any questions.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this item.

My telephone number is \_\_\_\_\_ Teletypewriter for impaired Hearing or Speech 383-7555 Baltimore Metro - 565-0451 D.C. Metro - 1-800-492-5062 Statewide Toll Free 707 North Calvert St., Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717

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J. HOMER WEIDEMEYER

Petitioners

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

R. Jacobson and Jacobson & Myerberg, P.A., 28 Allegheny

the legal owner and contract purchaser of the subject site

located in the first election district, second councilmanic

district of Baltimore County on the east side of Prince

George Street, 5 feet north of the center line of Gregory

Avenue the property being known as 5618 Prince George

Street. The property facing Prince George Street is zoned

DR 5.5. The lot 120 feet wide by approximately 149 feet

deep is crossed by a stream creating an irregular shaped

building envelope in the front left corner of the property.

The Petitioners are desirous of erecting a two story

residence consistent with the existing neighborhood

architecture. In order to so erect a home within the

existing building envelope a variance is needed with respect

to the front set back, presently 25 feet.

Avenue, Suite 701, Towson, Maryland 21204.

The Petitioners in this matter are represented by Lee

The facts in this matter are that the Petitioners are

PACESETTER HOMES, INC.

CASE NO.: 93-104-A

BEFORE THE

JACOBSON &

MYERBERG, P. A

88 ALLEGHENY AVENUE

701 THE PENTHOUSE

TOWSON, MD 21204

TELEPHONE 828-7090

ATTORNEYS AT LAY

BALTIMORE COUNTY

ZONING COMMISSIONER

Towson, MD 21204-5500 OCTOBER 19, 1992 Arnold Jablon Director Zoning Administration and Development Management Baltimore County Office Building Towson, MD 21204 RE: Property Owner: J. HOMER WEIDEMEYER Location: **#5618 PRINCE GEORGE STREET** Item No.: 110 (LJG) Zoning Agenda: OCTOBER 5, 1992 Gentlemen: Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property. 5. The buildings and structures existing or proposed on the site shall comply with all applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 101 "Life Safety Code", 1988 edition prior to occupancy. Planning Group Special Inspection Division JP/KEK

Baltimore County Government Fire Department

(410) 887-4500

700 East Joppa Road Suite 901

The variance required for this site is due to the required clearance from the 100 year flood plain as evidenced by correspondence dated January 13, 1992 from Robert E. Covahey, P.E., Chief of Baltimore County's Bureau of Public Services. The need for the front set back variance is created by the practices of Baltimore County in that the remaining building area is impractical to construct any form of modern housing thus requiring a variance of the front set back to permit the property to be used for its

intended purpose, a residential building lot. The Petitioners are entitled to relief in the form of a variance if the evidence complies with the standards set forth in section 307.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning regulations. The issue before the Zoning Commissioner in this case is one of set back from a street right of way. This is clearly an area variance where the burden is to prove practical difficulty. Here the practical difficulty arises out of the inherent problem created on this particular building lot by the relationship of the stream and the public road. This condition creates an appropriate subject for a variance in order to permit the intended use of the land, the development of a residential unit. There is no evidence in the record that would suggest the variance would create any issue of safety or injustice to anyone in the community. In fact, the only detriment created by this variance would be if this request was denied, as then the

Petitioners would lose the right to use their land as permitted by the laws of Baltimore County.

Based upon a reasonable acceptance of the facts and evidence and the proper application of the relative principles of law the relief should be granted.

> Respectfully submitted, LEE R. JACOBSON JACOBSON & MYERBERG, P.A. Suite 701, The Penthouse 28 Allegheny Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 828-7090 Attorney for Petitioners

Development Review Committee Responde to Land Date 10/15/52-Project Name Waiver Number Zoning Issue Meeting Date Ronald I. and Gisela J. Canary DED DEPRM RP STP TE J. Homer Weidemeyer DED DEPRM RP STP TE No Comment Irvin C. Ludloff, Jr. ED DEPRM RP STP TE DED DEPRM RP STP TE Emanuel Baptist Church DED DEPRM RP STP TE No Connert Jean P. Fraunfelter DED DEPRM RP STP TE No Connert Richard J. Januszkiewicz DED DEPRM RP STP TE No Connent DED DEPRM RP STP TE 10/5/92 No Comment COUNT 1

\*\*\* END OF REPORT \*\*\*

FINAL TOTALS

COUNT 7

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director Zoning Administration & Development Management

Office of Planning and Zoning

FROM: Pat Keller, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: J. Homer Weidmeyer Property

**DATE:** October 23, 1992

ZONING COMMISSIONEI

INFORMATION: Item Number:

Petitioner:

J. Homer Weidmeyer Property Size: 0.410 acres Zoning:

Requested Action: Variance Hearing Date:

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS: This petitioner is requesting a variance to allow a front yard setback of 10' in lieu of the required 30' front average.

The Office of Planning and Zoning recommends DENIAL of the petitioner's re-

The Office of Planning and Zoning's area planner visited the site and indicated that granting of the petitioner's request would significantly interrupt the alignment of homes along Prince George Street. All the houses on Prince George Street are setback at least 25' from the edge of the property line. The proposed new home would be situated too close to the street compared to the existing homes on both sides of this street. The community planning division, of the Office of Planning and Zoning, believes that from a neighborhood layout and design perspective that a home this close to the road would be undesirable and a detriment to

EMcD/FM: rdn

110. ZAC/ZAC1 Recal 11/2/92

## PACESETTER HOMES, INC. CUSTOMIZED HOMES . AFFORDABLE PRICES P.O. BOX 841 ELLICOTT CITY, MARYLAND 21043

(301) 465-8405

Mr. Lawrence E. Schmidt Zoning Commissioner Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning and Zoning 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: INFORMATION: Technical Change to Zoning Variance Request Case Number 93-104-A (Item 110), 5618 Prince George St. First Election District - Second Councilmanic Hearing Date: November 5, 1992

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Please accept this letter as the formal notice to modify the subject variance request.

The variance filed requests a front setback of 10 feet rather than the 30 feet now required by zoning. In the development of the plans, we inadvertently moved the house too close to the front property line. In correcting this error, we find that the front setback should be 15 feet, rather than the 10 feet originally requested in the petition. Thus, the new home will be further away from the property line and the street.

Please make a note of this change. A new plan has been prepared and will be submitted to the County at the formal hearing. No other changes have been made.

ZONING OFFICE

President

JACOBSON & Myerberg, P. A. ATTORNEYS AT LAW 20 ALLEGHENY AVENUE 701 THE PENTHOUS TOWSON, MD. 21204 TELEPHONE 828-7090

MYERBERG, P. A. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

28 ALLEGHENY AVENUE 701 THE PENTHOUSE TOWSON, ND. 21204

TELEPHONE 828-7090

Eric L. Bers, P.E.

All The Best,

Pg. 1

OCT 13 to:

